

Appendix 4: Traffic Management letters positioning the Revised Proposals for the Permit Parking Scheme and the planned Vinery Gardens Survey

**Highways and Parking
Network Management**
Southampton City Council
45 Castle Way,
Southampton SO14 2PD

Direct Dial: (023) 8083 2337
Email: graham.muir@southampton.gov.uk
Please ask for Graham Muir

Fax: 023 8083 3981
Our Ref: HP/NM/GM/CC18/

25th November 2009

The Occupier
Vinery Gardens, St James Park Road, Vinery Road, St Winifred's Road, Winchester Road (156-200)

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Proposed Permit Parking Scheme

I am writing to provide an update to residents following our recent public notice advertising proposals for permit parking restrictions in the area. Although we would not wish to withdraw the proposals on the basis of objections received, there are a number of concerns that were raised that we wish to share with the community.

Many of the points raised were in respect of staff parking for the General Hospital. A particular concern was that residents should have been made aware of the measures the Trust is taking and planning in their Transport Strategy to improve travel arrangements and parking for the General Hospital. I have therefore included a copy of the latest Southampton University Hospital Trust (SUHT) Transport Strategy Briefing Note that summarises this work.

It would also be of benefit to confirm that these proposals for permit parking restrictions have been prompted by the development of 152 Winchester Road and its potential impact on the existing high level of on-street parking. Whilst we have used some of the comments from a previous survey of residents in 2007 in revising the design of the proposed parking restrictions, that survey is not in our view a current indication of residents' views over a permit parking scheme.

It has also been suggested that the Council may have a financial interest in introducing permit parking restrictions. Although the Council does openly raise revenue from a range of sources to help fund services, the current revenue raised from permits charges (where applicable) and penalty choices does not meet the full cost of operating resident parking schemes across the city. Otherwise the only financial consideration arises from the development at 152 Winchester Road contributing to the cost of any prospective traffic regulation order.

There are also concerns about how the absence of limited waiting facilities would impact on the operation of the St James Chiropractic Clinic and St James Park Nursery, together with any potential impact on the level of visitor parking, which we are sympathetic to. Although we are unable to include limited waiting restrictions with the area of the *signing only* permit restrictions, we have now amended the design for the proposed parking restrictions to allow some limited waiting parking at the entrance to St James Park Road and Vinery Gardens.

Whilst we would hope that you will find this amendment to the draft Traffic Regulation Order acceptable and the overall scheme appropriate, but if, for any reason you do not, and you now wish to object to the proposal you have right to do so. Your objection would then be placed before the Council's Cabinet for consideration and a decision (unless the proposal is withdrawn). **Should you wish to make an objection in this way, please write to me stating your reasons for doing so and making sure your letter reaches me no later than 18th December 2009.** Please note that in the event you wish to make an objection and request that it be considered by the Council's Cabinet body, any such correspondence may be included within a Cabinet report accessible by the public or be subject to disclosure under Freedom of Information legislation.

Otherwise we have been advised that there may be instances where bollards or other obstructions have been observed on the road apparently reserving parking. If this is the case it is contrary to the Highway Acts 1980 and we would request that residents refrain from this practice.

If you require any further information please contact me.

Yours faithfully

Graham Muir,
Graham Muir, Traffic Engineer, Traffic Management

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Fax: 023 8083 3981
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20th January 2010

The Occupier
Vinery Gardens, Winchester Road (156-174)

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Proposed Permit Parking Scheme

Further to my letter of 11th January, I am writing to request resident views over the design of any prospective permit parking scheme in Vinery Gardens. The results from this survey may then assist the Cabinet of the Council in deciding whether the permit parking in Vinery Gardens proposals should proceed, be amended or withdrawn.

The background to this is an objection to our second permit parking design (with short sections allowing limited waiting at entrance to the road) and an associated request that the facility for limited waiting is extended to the remainder of Vinery Gardens. Unfortunately the Department for Transport regulations on *signing only* permit parking restrictions is that may only be used for Permit Holder parking only.

A third design for a scheme within Vinery Gardens has therefore been drafted for this survey. The main difference with this standard permit parking scheme is that whilst allowing limited waiting, these restrictions require marked parking bays and could not be extended to the area of the cul-de-sac. As we appreciate this was a concern for a number of residents in the survey undertaken in 2007, we wish to understand current resident views.

To assist residents I have also enclosed the preceding designs for comparison. Please can you therefore consider these scheme designs and complete the survey form for your household accordingly.

Please note the prospective design of the scheme would only be decided upon, if the Cabinet do not uphold objections to a permit parking scheme in this area.

As previously advised the Cabinet Meeting will be held at 2pm on 15th March in the Civic Chamber and will be open to the public. Contributions from the public may also be invited at the discretion of the Chair of the meeting.

If you require any further information or assistance please contact me.

Yours faithfully

Graham Muir

Graham Muir,
Traffic Engineer, Traffic Management